



August 21, 2014

Mr. Joshua Kern
The Ten Square Group
Options Public Charter School
818 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1009
Washington, DC 20006

Re: FFY 2012 LEA Determinations

Dear Mr. Kern:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) requires the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) as the State educational agency (SEA) to make determinations annually about the performance of local educational agencies (LEAs). OSSE is required to use the same categories that the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) uses for state determinations as outlined in Section 616(d) of IDEA. In making such determinations, OSSE will assign LEAs one of the following determination levels:

1. Meets Requirements
2. Needs Assistance
3. Needs Intervention
4. Needs Substantial Intervention

OSSE has determined that under IDEA section 616(d), for FFY 2012, Options Public Charter School **needs assistance** in implementing the requirements of Part B of IDEA. OSSE's determination is based on the totality of the LEA's data and information, including the LEA's:

1. History, nature and length of time of any reported noncompliance; specifically, the LEA's performance on Indicators 4b, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 as outlined in the State Performance Plan (SPP) and FFY 2010 Annual Performance Report (APR);
2. Information regarding timely, valid and reliable data;
3. On-site compliance monitoring, focused monitoring and dispute resolution findings;
4. Sub-recipient audit findings;
5. Other data available to OSSE regarding the LEA's compliance with the IDEA, including, but not limited to, relevant financial data and compliance with the Funding for Public Schools and Public Charter School Amendment Act of 2011;
6. Performance on selected SPP results indicators; and
7. Evidence of correction of findings of noncompliance, including progress toward full compliance.

Enclosure 1 explains the criteria for each element and the way existing data provided by LEAs were used to make determinations. Not all elements are applicable to each LEA; for example, some LEAs do not have data for



Indicator 12, as they do not serve children within the applicable age range (3 years old). Enclosure 2 describes how Options Public Charter School's determination level was calculated. It includes a chart that summarizes each required element, its corresponding rating, the total number of points earned by the LEA and the percentage of applicable points earned by the LEA.

The LEA's FFY 2011 determination was needs assistance. In accordance with IDEA section 616(e)(2)(B) and 34 CFR §§300.600(a) and 300.604, if an LEA is determined to need assistance for two or more consecutive years, OSSE must: advise the LEA of available sources of technical assistance; direct the use of LEA funds; and/or identify the LEA as a high-risk grantee and impose special conditions on the LEA's grant under Part B of the Act.

Therefore, OSSE is requiring Options Public Charter School to review Enclosure 2, identify areas of noncompliance, access technical assistance, and develop and complete a corrective action plan that addresses the area(s) of noncompliance identified in the determination. Within 60 days of receipt of this letter, Options Public Charter School must complete the following steps:

- 1. Contact Dr. La'Shawndra Scroggins, Director of Training and Technical Assistance at OSSE at lashawndra.Scroggins@dc.gov or (202) 741-0264 to arrange a meeting with an OSSE technical assistance provider.**
- 2. Meet with the OSSE technical assistance provider and develop a corrective action plan that addresses identified areas of noncompliance, and includes due dates for submission evidence demonstrating completion of the corrective action plan. The corrective action plan must reflect that all corrective actions will be completed by no later than June 30, 2015.**
- 3. Submit a copy of the corrective action plan for approval to your OSSE LEA monitor, Debra Melville at deborah.babb@dc.gov no later than October 20, 2014.**

Any LEA that believes that a specific element reviewed in the determination process is inaccurate may appeal its assigned determination level. The appeal must be made within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter. The request for appeal must include the submission of all information necessary for OSSE to reconsider the original determination level. Additional information regarding appeals may be found in Enclosure 1.

OSSE is committed to supporting Options Public Charter School's efforts to improve results for children and youth with disabilities and looks forward to working with Options Public Charter School over the next year. As part of OSSE's ongoing effort to provide useful information to District of Columbia stakeholders, OSSE will be making determination results available to the public after the close of the appeals process. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Jennifer Masoodi, Director of Monitoring and Compliance, at jennifer.masoodi@dc.gov or (202) 741-0479.

Sincerely,



Amy Maisterra, Ed.D, MSW

Assistant Superintendent of Specialized Education

Enclosures (2)

cc: Jennifer Masoodi, Director, Specialized Education Quality Assurance & Monitoring